



May Worship

All worship services will be recorded and posted on the church website so you can watch and stay connected each week. Online worship will continue until the restrictions for large group gatherings are lifted.



Church Council 2020

Kylee Amdor
Wes Aylsworth
Carmen Hanson
Jennifer Hinker
Jon Holzer
Elizabeth Kohlhof
Dan Langner
Tom Sebelien
Stacy VanCura
Pastor Bruce Kuenzel

The Marks of Discipleship

- ✝ Pray daily
- ✝ Worship weekly
- ✝ Read the Bible
- ✝ Serve at or beyond Light of Christ
- ✝ Relate to others for spiritual growth

Contact us!

Light of Christ Lutheran
3976 County Line Road SE
Delano, MN 55328
(763) 972-2400



LightOfChristLutheran.com
lochris@frontiernet.net

Produce Distribution – Volunteer Opportunity

On Tuesday and Wednesday of this week Light of Christ volunteers, in collaboration with Our Father's Lutheran Church in Rockford and Second Harvest Heartland, will again distribute boxes of fresh produce to area residents. This will be our third opportunity to support an event that fills an overwhelming need within our community. After Wednesday of this week, a total of just under 500 boxes of food will have been packed and distributed by Light of Christ volunteers committed to this effort.

The positive impact Light of Christ volunteers have in participating in this collaboration is heartwarming and greatly appreciated. We hope to continue participation for as long as the food supply is available and your help in this effort would be a blessing! Preferred volunteer age under 65 – confirmation and high school youth encouraged but must be accompanied by an adult. Please email locvolunteer@frontier.com or call Jinnelle Weis at 952-250-5527 if this is an effort you can help support. I will gladly add your name to the volunteer contact list. A huge thank you to all that have participated and to all new volunteers ready to assist!



Free Fresh Produce

Sponsored by Second Harvest Heartland and NourishingHOPE Food Drop

Boxes of fresh produce will be available for drive through pick up on a first come, first served basis

All are welcome

Wednesday, May 27th 3pm -until gone

(large quantity available this week- one box per household/vehicle)

Locations for pick up

Corcoran

St. Thomas Catholic Church parking lot

Delano

Light of Christ Lutheran Church parking lot

Loretto

Fire Department hosting:
Sts Peter and Paul Catholic Church parking lot

Montrose

Montrose United Methodist Church parking lot

Rockford

Our Father's Lutheran Church parking lot

St. Michael

Colonial Mall (Alleluia Lutheran Church)

Buffalo new site Buffalo Covenant Church parking lot

Appropriate distancing and covid mitigation practices will be employed

May “Fifth Sunday” Special Offering Is for Second Harvest Heartland

Second Harvest Heartland is the provider for the Free Fresh Produce Give Away happening in May at Light of Christ and 5 other surrounding community locations. They also provide food at a low cost for our local Food Shelf to distribute.

Hunger doesn't wait. While COVID-19 affects our community, helping our neighbors experiencing hunger is more necessary than ever. Missing work and an uncertain economy mean families are missing meals. For more information on their programs and COVID-19 response visit 2harvest.org/covid19update.

So please consider giving what you can to help support this vital program, especially during this uncertain time of increasing needs. Donations may be sent to Light of Christ any time during the month of May. Thank you for your generosity and help for our neighbors in need.



Why give?

Everyone responds a bit differently to the question. But here are a few responses:

- I give because I've been blessed in my life and I get to give back.
- I give because I want to help others.
- I give because I'm grateful to be a part of my church.
- I give because I want to make a difference.
- I give because it gives me joy to do so.
- I give because God gives.
- I give because it's all about ministry.
- I give because I can.
- I give because it reminds me I'm a part of something bigger than myself.
- I give because I believe in our church and what we do and who we are.
- I give because I've been asked.
- I give as an expression of love and gratitude.
- I give because it's right to do so.
- I give because it takes all of us doing our part.
- I give because I've been taught and inspired to give.
- I give because it helps keep me from being selfish.
- I give as a way of paying it forward.

Whatever be your reasons for giving, we are grateful for your gifts. Small. Large. Planned. Unplanned and spontaneous. Intentional. Just because.

You. We, together. All of us. We are Christ's community who are called and gifted to bring the light of the gospel and God's goodness to others.

Thank you!
Your Stewardship Team

CARING CORNER

(Created by Light of Christ
Healing and Wholeness Ministry)



May is National Mental Health Awareness Month

Light of Christ's (LOC) Healing and Wholeness Ministry recognizes that this time of quarantine and isolation brings a new dimension of concern for all of us who struggle with (or love someone who does) anxiety, depression, loneliness, addiction, and many forms of mental illness.

Our connection as a faith community is so important and we hope you feel you can reach out for support, prayer, a listening ear. This is the final week of Mental Health Awareness Month. Hopefully you've taken time to practice our daily doses of encouragement. Continue to visit the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) website namimn.org for links on weekly Zoom classes and for education and support links.

May 25: Memorial Day - Revisit happy memories of loved ones lost and all they brought to your life.

May 26: Clean out a drawer and clear negative thoughts from your mind.

May 27: Put on some favorite music and **DANCE!**

May 28: Take a walk, even if it's raining. Smell, see, hear, taste God's creation.

May 29: Practice deep breathing and 5 minutes of meditation.

May 30: Call an LOC member who lives alone. You will both be blessed.

May 31: Thank and Praise God through online worship and communion.

Call on the Light of Christ Prayer Chain

Then you will call on me and come and pray to me and I will listen to you. Jeremiah 29:12

Are you in need of a prayer during these difficult days? Do you know someone else in need of prayer? If so, please feel free to engage the Light of Christ Prayer Chain. The process is simple and 100% confidential. All you need to do is contact the church office either by email (preferred— lochris@frontiernet.net) or phone (763-972-2400; please keep in mind office hours are currently limited to Wednesdays, 9:15-11:30 am) with your request. The church office then contacts the group of LOC members ready to pray for you as requested. Feel free to call on this team in your time of need. Anyone wishing to join the Prayer Chain should contact the Church office.

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY NEWS



A huge **THANK YOU** to all our Sunday school teachers, parent volunteers and Children and Family Committee for all your help through the past year!

We celebrated our last day of Sunday school with a beach theme that included games, messages from their teachers, and a slideshow. Thank you to all our Sunday school families for a great year! Have a great summer!!



Final Zoom Connects for Kids!

Here is the remaining schedule for Zoom Connect times for grades 4 & 5. Hope you can join us!

- ◇ 4th Grade = May 26 from 3:00-3:30 pm
- ◇ 5th Grade = May 28 from 3:00-3:30 pm

Summer Ministry Opportunity

Light of Christ staff is looking for adults/families that would be interested in leading and recording a "Sunday School" type lesson that can be used for families to continue to connect and practice faith at home during the summer months. It might be you or your family reading a Bible story and sharing a craft and/or song that would tie-into the story. Or maybe you have another great idea? We are also welcoming families to help with our Sunday worship services by contributing a recording to be a part of the service (such as the Lord's Prayer, etc). If you or your family would be willing to help in either of these ways (or just get more info), please contact Kirsten Kelly, Katie Kohler or Pastor Bruce. We are thankful for the work of our entire church family as we continue to find creative ways to grow and connect in faith.

Change for Children

This summer, even though we cannot gather for worship, our children and youth are organizing the 2nd Annual Change for Children offering project to raise money for the **ELCA Global Barnyard**. Last spring, this project exceeded our expectations and we raised \$1,447.97! This allowed us to purchase 2 cows, 3 goats, 3 pigs, 100 chicks and 4 sets of seeds and gardening tools (which are given to families around the world to create sustainability and food for their families). To learn more about the ELCA Good Gifts program, go to <https://goodgifts.elca.org/how-it-works-o>.



This year we are setting our goal a bit higher and hope to raise \$1,500 over the summer months! We encourage families to make a Change for Children jar at home and later in the summer we will share details about how you can drop off your donation. Donations can also be made **online on our giving page** (make sure to indicate "Change for Children"). Thanks for your support as we collect change and come together to make "Change for Children"!

New Equal Exchange Online Store with FREE Delivery... order for yourself or brighten someone's day!

Light of Christ (LOC) youth are beginning a new "Online Store" with Equal Exchange items (coffee, chocolate, tea, nuts, etc.) as well as LOC Tumblers. You can order items online (<https://forms.gle/Td7By6ugsStCBALW7>) and then choose to have them delivered to someone's house to brighten their day (gift wrapping available) or order for yourself and have it delivered to your home! If you order for someone else, we encourage you to include a special note so they know who it is from. Payment for items can be made online or you can mail a check, but items will not be delivered until payment is received. Once the order is complete, a high schooler from LOC will deliver the item/s to the specified address (free within Delano and surrounding communities). We will make sure to follow CDC and social distancing guidelines during the entire process. All proceeds will benefit future youth trips/camp. What a great way to send a "thank you" to your child's teacher, get a gift for a birthday, or just brighten someone's day! (Please note: since we're not sure how popular this will be, we are starting with the inventory that we currently have available. If we find that it goes well, we will order more Equal Exchange items and have them available once they arrive. Thanks for your patience and understanding. And we invite your feedback and input!)



What's Your Favorite Hymn?



During our Saturday devotions we are hoping to share members' favorite hymns/Christian songs and how those songs have played a part in their Christian faith. If you are interested in sharing, please contact Katie (locworshipmus@gmail.com)

Video and written statements are both accepted. Katie will share your statements and sing the

songs during Saturday devotions. If you wish to remain anonymous that's fine too! We are excited to hear from all of you!

Virtual Happy Hour Connect

The Community Life Committee and Sisters of LOC are hosting virtual connect events for our members at Light of Christ. The purpose is to create connection and informally give people the chance to connect for some fun conversation and camaraderie.



We currently have two events scheduled for **Thursday, June 4th** and **Thursday, June 18th**. Events will take place from 7-8pm. If you are interested in joining either event, please contact Elizabeth Kohlhof at elizabeth.kohlhof@gmail.com for the Zoom meeting links.

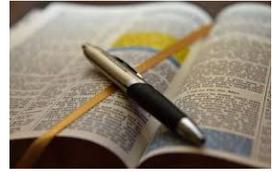
Vibrant | Connected | Serving

With the Minnesota "Safer at Home" continuing, Light of Christ staff and congregation renew our commitment to staying connected, providing support, and giving assistance within and beyond our congregation.

If you or someone you know is in need of support, please email locvolunteer@frontier.com or call Jinnelle Weis at 952-250-5527. If you can **provide** support, please call or email and I will gladly add you to one of the many ways in which we are connecting with our church family.

Since the initial order prohibiting in-person gatherings, our Light of Christ members have volunteered to reach out through a multitude of different initiatives. Area residents have benefited by Light of Christ volunteers who have willingly packed and distributed fresh produce in collaboration with Our Father's Lutheran Church and Second Harvest Heartland. Many persons have offered to run errands or give assistance in navigating online ordering and virtual communication opportunities.

"Finding Peace in These Times" Tuesday Evening Bible Study/ Conversation



Small things...

- Faith as a mustard seed...
- The speck in your brother's eye...
- The small rudder of a ship...
- The tongue is a small part of the body, and yet...

In a world of bigger is better, what does the Bible say about small things?

- How about just a little faith? Is that enough?
- What about critiquing something small that, well, just needs to be pointed out?
- How about small thoughts? Do they matter?
- What part of your life is most important to control?
- Does a single word matter?

All are welcome to our Light of Christ Tuesday Evening Study/Conversation gathering via Zoom at 7-8 p.m.

- No experience necessary
- A little bit of Bible
- A little bit of conversation
- A little bit of inspiration and learning
- A little bit of community
- ...not bad for a Tuesday evening 😊

Email Tim Johnson, our discussion host, for more information or for a Zoom link at tdale57@gmail.com

Next week: What the Bible says about Simple Living (in this sometimes too complex world of ours)

Get Your Daily Devotions



Pastor Bruce and Worship and Music Director, Katie Kohler, post a morning devotion five days a week — Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday—which can be found on our [website](#) under the "Staying Vibrant Despite the Virus" tab (*Worship/Music/Devotions*) or on our [YouTube channel](#).

Light of Christ youth and adults have been connecting with a note to members to say we are thinking of you or simply checking in with a "how are you doing" phone call. We continue saying "thank you" and express our heartfelt gratitude to all those on the front lines – our medical personnel, public and private school educators, grocery store employees and so many more.

Thank you to all our amazing volunteers who have actively participated in nourishing relationships, in caring for each other and in finding ways to stay connected even when we cannot do so face to face. Your hands and feet are doing God's work in this time of need and we are truly blessed!